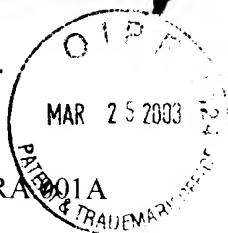


ELITRA 001A



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Zyskind, et al.
Appl. No. : 09/492,709
Filed : January 27, 2000
For : GENES IDENTIFIED AS
REQUIRED FOR THE
PROLIFERATION OF
ESCHERICHIA COLI
Examiner : A. Marschel

Group Art Unit 1631

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AMENDMENT

United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 2327
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

This is a response to the Office Action mailed on December 20, 2002 (Paper Number 28), for the above-referenced patent application. Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for his time and courtesies extended during the telephonic interview of March 04, 2003. The substance of the interview is described in the Interview Summary mailed March 5, 2003 and in the accompanying remarks. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.